

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The Church Council of First Baptist Church of Midland, Texas met for its regular meeting on Monday, March 18, 2019. Members present: Clark Butts, Andy Cobb, Charlotte Cooke, Randy Cotton, Scott Daw, Tom Hanna, Jayna Hobby, Dr. Richard Jolly, Ralph Lea, Mike Mayer, Patrick Mayers, Clark Moreland, Kim Ortega, April Paris, Toni Redman, K'Lynn Roberts, Ginger Schantz, Jason Sims, Perry Taylor, and Tracye Vaughan.

Staff members present: Cory Brand, LaNell Dean, John Elliott, Larry Grimes, and Dr. Darin Wood.

Chairman Richard Jolly called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. He asked for prayer requests. Prayer was offered.

The minutes from the February 18, 2019 meeting were **approved**.

REPORTS

Senior Pastor – Darin Wood

Dr. Wood invited John Elliott to discuss follow-up to the Upwards Basketball season. Mr. Elliott mentioned that Upwards had been a big part of his life from 2005 up to now. This year, he said they had seen more players commit to following Christ than ever before – around 100 children. He surmised that this was because he and Nathan Wennerlind had taken a more active role in sharing the gospel message at practices. He then said that while the Activities Ministry has in the past been successful at holding day camps and administering Upwards, they have struggled with follow-up. But he said God has put on his heart a desire to do more outreach. He identified the families of the players who made professions of faith, and only four attend FBC. He realized the entire church needs to be involved in this outreach effort. Mr. Elliott said he had begun to send out letters to the families, but that the outreach team would follow up with visits where they would give families a gift bag that contained a church map and information about the I'm a Christian Now class. He concluded by stating that he thought the outreach team could have a transformational impact on the community.

Discussion occurred about the gift bag and whether it included information about upcoming events. There was also discussion about the need for more volunteers with the I'm a Christian Now class. Mr. Elliott reported the contact information would be distributed to the outreach team the following Sunday, and then he would deliver the gift bags to the outreach team a couple of weeks later.

Dr. Wood then noted the good response to holding the Lord's Supper in the Fellowship Hall the previous evening. Perry Taylor added it might be a good idea to serve it on a Wednesday night sometime. Discussion occurred about the impact of celebrating the Lord's Supper at tables with other families. Dr. Wood noted that the next Lord's Supper would be served the morning of Palm Sunday. He also noted that the Footprints series would be on the agenda intermittently over the course of the next several months. His intention is to carry on with meeting at 5:00 PM on Sunday nights until Summer, and then reevaluate.

Business Administrator – Larry Grimes

In surplus spending news, Mr. Grimes noted that new carpet and tile had been ordered, extending from the Fellowship Hall to the preschool area. He also noted that pipes and air conditioners were being

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replaced, and that a lot of work had been done during spring break. The roof had been resealed and coated, and windows have been ordered for the interior of the Main Building and the Activities Building, which will be installed this summer.

Cory Brand, LaNell Dean, and Mr. Grimes then reported on their efforts to find new computer systems to manage finances and membership information. Mr. Grimes reviewed with the Council the church's purchase of **ShelbyNext Financials** for financial software, and **Church Community Builder (CCB)** for membership management. Below are some of the highlights of their presentation:

- Mr. Grimes noted that Shelby5 would no longer receive technical support, which was important for maintaining old data on church servers. He noted that there would be some overlap as information migrated from one system to the next, particularly so that members would be given one record of giving at the end of the year. He also noted that some components of CCB won't roll out until later this year.
- It was noted that the Finance Committee had met the day before and had heard the same presentation. They approved the purchase (see below: Finance Committee report).
- Mr. Grimes noted that they had attempted to find one system to both the financial and membership needs of the church, but they were unable to do so. He noted all ministers and staff are on board with the changes, and that Tom Beebe and Tom Hanna had met with LaNell to make sure the purchase would be fiscally responsible. Mr. Grimes said Jeff Wash had contacted a national media ministry group, who gave glowing reports about CCB.
- LaNell Dean noted that both pieces were cloud-based, meaning the church would not need to pay for server backup or maintenance. She also noted that she had reached out to local churches using ShelbyNext and they were happy with it. It would allow for easier bank reconciliations and transitioning to paperless management of accounts payable. She also noted that the business office would not need extensive training to use it. As for CCB, the biggest advantage would be bolstering efforts to communicate with members regarding attendance, contributions, information updates and security, as well as creating workflows for ministers and lay church leaders to reach members more effectively. She noted that CCB is smartphone and tablet friendly.
- The pricing for the software was as follows:
 - CCB: \$14,068 (\$6,018 annual fee may possibly raise to \$6,630 depending on membership increases next year; training cost of \$1,650 in addition to \$6,000 cost for coach to work with staff and church leaders over a six-month period). ShelbyNext: \$4,152 annually (some question remains about whether the church will employ the scanning software that ShelbyNext offers). Overall, the expected budget costs for both pieces of software look to be \$31,494 (2020-21), compared to the current cost of \$25,728 for Shelby5 and VOMO.

Discussion occurred about the CCB app; Dr. Wood said it looks very intuitive and looks like an Apple product. Further discussion took place about the CCB Coach; Mr. Grimes said the coach will initially be on site to help us integrate the software with FBC culture. Clark Butts asked about whether the contracts would be secured on a year-to-year basis, and whether there was the possibility of negotiating fiduciary costs down over the long-term. He also asked about information security with these programs, and Mr. Grimes replied that since they are cloud-based they look to be safer, and he had no knowledge of security breaches with either company, which he noted is well established in the

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market.

Richard Jolly asked committee members to review the Ministerial reports. (See attached report.) He also mentioned staff birthdays and passed around cards.

Deacons – Andy Cobb

No report from Andy Cobb. Randy Cotton reported that ~85 ballots had been cast for the Deacon Nominating Committee, which was down from last year. The top vote earners are those who have been nominated before, he noted. Discussion occurred as to why ballots are down. Some noted there might be a need to talk to Sunday school departments about the importance of deacon service. Further discussion occurred about the possibility of electronic voting and informing members about who the candidates are. Dr. Wood wondered if the nomination needs to go to every other year. He said the church is still transitioning in some ways away from what deacons used to do.

Committee Reports

Chairman's Report – Richard Jolly

Dr. Jolly expressed thanks for attending the prayer meeting for Church Council. He asked members to send Secretary Moreland committee minutes and to look over their charters. He also reminded Council about visits to Sunday school classes. He noted that the next meeting would take place on April 15th because of the Easter holiday. Finally, he asked everyone to remember the staff and pastors in prayer.

Missions – Mike Mayer

Mr. Mayer reported that finance and budget discussions are starting. Bryan Pinson suggested looking at keeping the total number of mission partners the same, and to look to be more impactful with the ministries the church currently supports. He said all ministries have until March 20 to get annual funding requests into the committee. Mr. Mayer then noted that a one-time funding request for \$2,800 had been approved for Capstone Church in Helena, MT, as well as \$3,000 to Luke Spencer for his work with the Navigators ministry.

Childcare/Family – Ginger Schantz

Ms. Schantz said the committee had not met again since the last Council meeting. She noted that at the end of the month, the church conference would vote on the name and charter changes to the committee.

Finance – Tom Hanna

Mr. Hanna presented the February Financial Report. He observed that receipts were ~\$58,000 lower than forecasted in February, but expenditures are lower than expected as well, so the operating gain is still looking good. Investment income is yielding ~\$4,000 in interest on CDARS, and the Nobles royalties are also solid this year. He then reported the Committee had voted to approve the purchase of the ShelbyNext and CCB software packages out of 24040 (Administrative Projects), coming out of royalty and investment income. **A motion to accept the monthly financial report passed unanimously.**

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General Nominating – K'Lynn Roberts

K'Lynn Roberts reported that the Committee had approved Don Hale and Becca Hanna to serve on a 3-year term on the 2018-19 Committee on Committees, and that Heidi Mayers and Kim Stokes were approved for 3-year terms starting in Fall 2019. More names have been passed on to Committee on Committees for service opportunities. She then said the Committee had reviewed its charter and no changes had been made. **The motion to accept the nominees passed with one abstention.**

Maintenance and Expansion – Clark Butts

Mr. Butts said the Committee would meet the following Thursday.

Membership – Ralph Lea

Mr. Lea said the next meeting of the Committee would take place on March 27th. He reported that the Bodybuilding program was going well, as had the farewell reception for Janna Boyd. He said the committee is looking to set up an information desk in the Welcome Center.

The Council then reviewed the additions and losses to the membership. The additions to the church totaled 9 in February (3 by baptism; 4 by letter; 2 by statement), with 7 membership losses (4 by death; 1 by letter; 2 joined another denomination). The additions will be voted on at the March 2019 Church Conference. Total active resident members are 2984. **A motion to accept the membership report passed unanimously.**

Personnel – Richard Jolly

Dr. Jolly noted that the Search Committee for Minister to Senior Adults was meeting and had been revising the job description to include outreach responsibilities. There was a question if the Committee had a chairperson, and Dr. Wood replied that there was not one. The members of the Search Committee are Bill Bain, Vernon Stokes, Connie Burns, Jacque Wise, and Linda Kahler.

Transportation – Perry Taylor

The Committee met the day before, Mr. Taylor reported. They discussed the purchase of a new bus; he noted the old bus would be sold. There was also discussion in the Committee on replacing a trailer and perhaps eliminating another one from service entirely. Mr. Taylor then reported that they were working on a few minor changes to the charter.

Safety and Security Committee – Randy Cotton

Mr. Cotton said the Committee would meet the following Wednesday, but that they also met two days after the last Council meeting. He noted efforts to improve door insulation and security; they are considering two bids. He said quarterly staff and law enforcement drills would take place soon. He then noted an upcoming change to all manually locking doors. A new S&S operations manual is forthcoming. Mr. Cotton then noted that a subcommittee is examining S&S issues on the second floor of the main building, specifically in the children and youth wings. Next, he said the Committee made changes to the

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children's ministry background check form, and updated CDC and CDO S&S measures had been confirmed. Finally, he said the Committee is creating recommended guidelines for travel insurance for ministers and staff.

New Business

No new business.

Scott Daw closed the meeting in prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.



Clark Moreland, Secretary, 2018-19

Date Approved